

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6382

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15336

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: CEASECIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR-1, AUGUST 24, 1973

THE FOLLOWING SENT SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL DANANG 24 AUG 73
RPEATED TO YOU.

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 1052

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR-1, AUGUST 24, 1973

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

A. AUGUST 23 - I CORPS HEADQUARTERS BRIEFING: SIXTEEN CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS REPORTED CONSISTING OF TWO GROUND ATTACKS, THIRTEEN ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND ONE HARASSMENT. GVN CASUALTIES: EIGHTEEN KIA AND THIRTY-ONE WIA. PRG/NVA CASUALTIES: SIX KIA. FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY ROUNDS OF FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS; EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT FIRED SOUTH. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT EMPLACEMENTS WERE BOMBED NEAR BACH MA MOUNTAIN WITH REPORTED RESULTS OF ONE EMPLACEMENT AND ONE MORTAR DESTROYED.

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B. AUGUST 24 - NINE CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS REPORTED CONSISTING OF ONE GROUND ATTACK, SEVEN ATTACKS BY FIRE, AND ONE HARASSMENT. GVN CASUALTIES: ELEVEN KIA, THREE MIA, THIRTY-SIX WIA. PRG/NVA CASUALTIES: FOUR KIA, ONE RETURNEE. TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE ROUNDS OF FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED ABOVE THE HAI VAN PASS; FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE FIRED BELOW.

2. POLITICAL SITUATION:

A. SENATE ELECTIONS - DIRECTOR, CONGEN PROVINCIAL OFFICE (DPO) QUANG NAM REPORTS THAT THE DAN CHU PARTY IS EXPECTED TO GET ABOUT EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE VOTE THERE. PROVINCE OFFICIALS HAVE ISSUED DETAILED ORDERS TO COPE WITH THREATS TO SECURITY. IN THAT PROVINCE THE VIET-CONG ARE ENCOURAGING THE PEOPLE TO SPOIL THEIR BALLOTS. THEY DO NOT ASK THE VOTERS TO REMAIN AT HOME.

B. DANANG CITY COUNCIL - ON 17 AUGUST THE POSITIONS OF CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN, AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL WERE FILLED IN A ROUTINE ANNUAL ELECTION. THE DAN CHU PARTY WAS REPORTED TO HAVE MANEUVERED HARD FOR THE ELECTION OF THREE FAVORITES, WHO IN FACT RECEIVED THE NECESSARY MAJORITIES. MAI XUAN TRIET, CHAIRMAN, IS DAN CHU, AND WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN IN 1971. NGO DUC DUONG, VICE-CHAIRMAN, IS DAN CHU. NGUYEN DINH HOE, SECRETARY GENERAL, IS VNQDD. ALL THREE ARE BUDDHIST. TRAN NGOC TU, PREVIOUS COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE DESIRED RE-ELECTION BUT HAS NOT BEEN MARKEDLY PRO-GOVERNMENT IN HIS RATHER COLORLESS COUNCIL LEADERSHIP.
POPPLE UNQUOTE
MARTIN

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